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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA** [CA/CA]; Intellectual Property Services Office, Room EG-12, Bldg. M-58, Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R6 (CA).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **TANHA, Jasmid** [CA/CA]; 2879-A Sandalwood Drive, Kanata, Ontario K1V 7P4 (CA). **DUBUC, Ginette** [CA/CA]; 1192 Agincourt Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 2H9 (CA). **NARANG, Saran** [CA/CA]; 30 Higgins Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2G 0R5 (CA).
- (74) Agent: **ANDERSON, J., Wayne**; Intellectual Property Services Office, Room EG-12, Bldg. M-58, Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R6 (CA).
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(54) Title: SINGLE-DOMAIN ANTIGEN-BINDING ANTIBODY FRAGMENTS DERIVED FROM LLAMA ANTIBODIES

(57) Abstract: A phage display library of variable heavy domain (V_HH or VH) fragments (sdAb fragments) derived from the antibody repertoire of a non-immunized llama is disclosed. The sdAb fragments of the library are characterized by the absence of cysteine residues in complementarity determining regions (CDRs) and a very low presence of residues of glutamic acid, arginine and glycine at positions 44, 45 and 47 respectively, of the VL interface of the variable heavy domain V_HH. The large size of the library (in the order of 10⁹) makes it a source of antigen-binding fragments having high affinity to almost any antigen of interest. The library is preferably generated using a modified fd-tet phage growing in plaques in the absence of a tetracycline.

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